

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1821, February 13, 1954

## HEATHER AND HER TALKING DOLL

### Progress of a young ventriloquist

Many children leave school without any clear idea of the career they want. But in the case of Heather Tidman of Northfleet, a doll called Flossie seems to be making up her mind for her. Since Heather appeared as a ventriloquist on television last year, offers of professional engagements have started to arrive. Flossie, anyway, it seems, is determined to follow in the footsteps of Archie Andrews, whose sister she can claim to be.

THE story really began, writes CN correspondent Edward Lanchbery, 12 years ago, when Heather Tidman went to her brother's wedding. Three-year-old Heather soon tired of the fuss and excitement, and to keep her quiet and out of mischief, the bride gave her Charlie to play with. Charlie was a small dummy with a hinged chin that could be moved up and down.

Heather sat on the hearthrug with Charlie and took no further interest in bride or bridegroom, friends or relatives. She just talked to Charlie and wagged his chin to make him talk back to her.

#### FAIR EXCHANGE

That was the end of Charlie so far as the bride was concerned. She had taken Heather's brother for keeps, so presumably it was fair that Heather should keep Charlie. Anyway, Heather clung determinedly to Charlie and refused to let him go; and for the past 12 years she has still not let him go.

Favourite dolls and teddy-bear were banished to the toy cupboard, and Charlie took charge. The important difference about Charlie was that from the start grown-ups accepted that he could "talk," and encouraged Heather to make him "talk."

Heather was not long in realising the advantages of such an ally. Charlie could be cheeky and get away with it. Charlie could say things that, coming from Heather alone, would have caused immediate banishment to her bedroom.

Having Charlie there to shield her from blame was a wonderful idea! In fact it was a little unfair on Charlie, perhaps, that Heather herself would often lead the rebuke and say quickly: "Isn't Charlie a naughty boy, Mummy?"

The upshot was that any inclination to mischief and precocity found a natural outlet through Charlie.

Heather was four when Charlie made his bow in public. At the time Heather had just started piano lessons, and when the kindergarten class was asked whether any of them would like to take part in the school concert Heather announced that she would play the piano.

#### CHANGE OF MIND

Every other little girl had the same idea, so Heather changed her mind and took along her talking doll instead of her music.

Charlie was a great success, and for six years he was a regular feature of school concerts. At

some point—Heather cannot remember when—someone must have said: "Try not to move your lips when you make Charlie talk." So Heather stopped moving her lips. It was as simple as that. No taking lessons in ventriloquism, no hours of practice in front of a mirror.

The art came naturally, Heather says. She does not know how or why. The fact that her "voice box," according to a doctor who examined her recently, is un-



## Life Class

In these pictures, both from Bristol, it is Animal Life Class. In the picture on the left the model is Punch, an eight-year-old wire-haired terrier, who lives at Lodge School. He is a patient sitter, always eager to pose for his young friends in the art class. The other model is a tiger at Bristol Zoo, willingly posing for Keeper Bill Barratt, but separated from him by an inch-thick panel of non-reflecting glass.

usually low in the throat, may have something to do with it.

The fame of Heather and her talking doll spread beyond school walls. She began to receive requests to appear at charity concerts and fêtes. It was soon obvious, however, that for these occasions in large halls, Charlie was not big enough.

His mouth was so small that the movements could not be seen at a distance; and the microphone magnified the clapping noise of the closing of the mouth to such an extent that Charlie sounded more like Annette Mills's Peregrine the Penguin.

#### ARCHIE ANDREWS' SISTER

So Heather went in search of a bigger dummy and found Flossie, who moved her head as well as her chin. Flossie can claim to be Archie Andrews' sister, because she was made by the same man who made the first Archie Andrews.

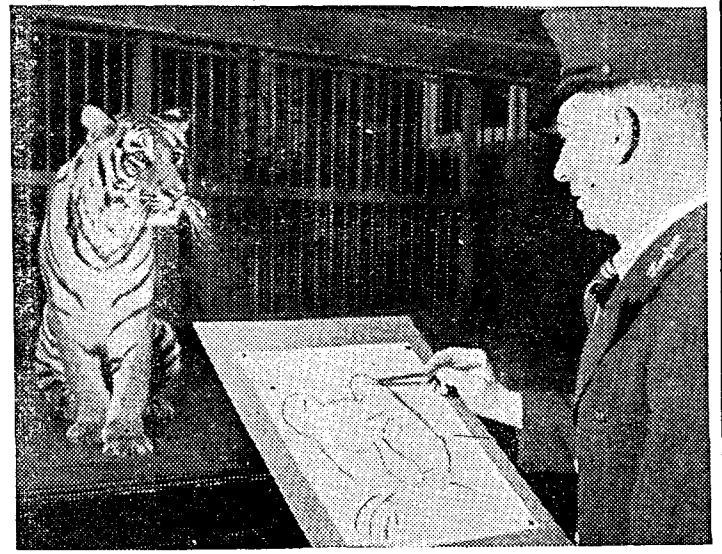
Now Heather really did have to practise. It had been simple enough to give Charlie a cheeky boy's voice, but Heather found it was not so easy to carry on patter in her own natural voice and another girl's voice that was sufficiently different.

When she thought she had at last achieved a distinctive voice for her new dummy, Heather took Flossie to London to make a record. The recording engineer was a friendly man. At the end of the recording he said: "One thing spoils your act. The doll's voice sounds like yours."

Heather was inclined to be indignant until the recording was played back. But it was true. Flossie's voice did not sound nearly as different as she had imagined; it was in fact very much like that of Heather Tidman.

"Give her a definite accent," advised the recording engineer; and Flossie promptly assumed an Irish nationality.

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## ONLY CAR OF ITS KIND

Mr. Pat Banwell, of Earlston, Berwickshire, is the owner of a car which is the only one of its kind in the world—a Spanish Cord, made in Toledo. Only two of these cars were ever made, the other being destroyed in a crash in 1940.

Mr. Banwell's car, which weighs nearly three tons and has a 56 h.p. engine, can do 120 m.p.h., and cruises at 90 m.p.h. It does about 10 miles to the gallon.

Its previous owner was Mr. Walt Disney, the film producer.

## RELIC OF CAPTAIN COOK

The museum at Auckland has received a gift of two ancient Maori war clubs which Captain James Cook brought back to England with him after his first visit to New Zealand in 1769-70.

Captain Cook gave them to a Mr. Shattowe, who had been his schoolteacher in Yorkshire. They remained among the treasures of the Shattowe family for 180 years. Now they are back in New Zealand.

## HOLE IN A PIN

A jeweller at Auckland, New Zealand, has drilled a tiny hole through the whole length of an ordinary pin, and has passed two silk threads through it.

He is Mr. L. W. Tetley, and he makes a hobby of intricate work. Some years ago he served in the Royal New Zealand Air Force, working on fine scientific and navigational equipment.

## LIVELY PRIZE

The people of Girvan were surprised recently to see Councillor E. M. Curran walking down Hamilton Street leading a goat on a rope. He had won it at a Masonic Whist Drive and was taking it home.

The goat now occupies its time cropping the grass in his garden.

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Heather Tidman with Flossie



# JAPAN LOOKS TO THE WEST

CN Diplomatic Correspondent

BRITAIN'S recently signed trade and payments pact with Japan has provoked a good deal of comment, and not all favourable to the Japanese.

They have been described as Britain's most dangerous competitors in the trading world. If given the opportunity, it is contended, they will revert to their pre-war practices of "dumping" cheap goods in other countries and flouting international agreements on fair marketing, and so bring disaster to sections of our exporting industries.

It is pointed out that under the new Anglo-Japanese pact Japan will be able to increase her own exports to the Sterling Area by £80,000,000 a year. Against this, the amount of the Commonwealth's goods entering Japan will fall by £30,000,000 in a year.

It would seem, therefore, that Britain has been more than a little generous.

What is the truth about Japan?

Her leaders and her people are trying conscientiously to make a success of the democratic form of Government adopted since the war.

They are having a desperate struggle to keep out of debt with other countries—particularly Britain—and with the Sterling Area in general.

## LURE OF COMMUNISM

In such conditions Communism could have proved a powerful lure, and Totalitarian States have certainly been tempting and persuasive. But the Japanese have so far clung to the belief that their future lies with the free Western world.

This belief is exemplified in the neat, smiling person of Mr. Shigeru Yoshida, the 74-year-old Prime Minister, leader of the Liberal party.

Mr. Yoshida, who was his country's Ambassador in London in 1936, has proved an able statesman since the war. He led through the Japanese Diet the new Constitution which renounces war as a means of implementing policy.

During the last few years he has been called the Churchill of Japan, although—as he would agree—he does not have Sir Winston's gift of oratory.

His policy and the direction in

which he is striving to lead his country is based on full realisation of Japan's grave situation. Her population grows bigger and bigger, but she has lost some of her best markets in the war. Her costs are high; her industrial methods are somewhat out of date. At the moment she is finding it a problem to keep her prices down to the average level in the trading world.

## RIVAL AND CUSTOMER

Japan will undoubtedly be a keen competitor of Britain. But she will also buy British goods—if she has the money. Without the recent pact, she would have had to cut her imports from this country even more heavily because she was short of sterling.

Mr. Yoshida has constantly urged that Britain should show a more friendly attitude towards Japan. Whatever one may say about the recent pact—and much is being said—no one has yet called it unfriendly.

## One-seater



This little car, driven by an electric motor of 1.3 h.p., was recently seen in Munich.

## HEATHER AND FLOSSIE

Continued from page 1

Flossie was fun. She began to take Heather to Darby and Joan concerts, to children's parties, to hospitals, to charity entertainments in aid of flood, famine, disabled ex-Servicemen, and similar worthy causes.

The highlight of Flossie's career was last summer when she appeared on television in All Your Own. In the north-east Kent district in which she lives, Heather Tidman became a popular, home-grown celebrity. A local newspaper warned Peter Brough and Archie Andrews to look to their laurels.

Heather went specially to a broadcast of Peter Brough's programme to discover how he and Archie managed to sing together at

the same time. She was disappointed. That part of the act had already been recorded before.

Afterwards Peter Brough just smiled when Heather tackled him on the subject. "But he was very kind," Heather said. "He looked through my cuttings book, and was most encouraging."

Heather, who is now turned 15, left school at Christmas. In addition to her charity shows, professional engagements are now being offered her. Flossie is "talking" her into a stage career.

Heather's other main interest is in dogs, which she shows and breeds. Her hope is to combine the two hobbies of dog-breeding and Flossie into a livelihood.

"Wouldn't it be wonderful if it came off?" she said.



By the CN Press Gallery Correspondent

AT first glance a White Paper called "Revenue and Expenditure (England and Wales and Scotland), 1952-53" does not sound exciting. But for Scottish readers it is of particular importance.

In comprehensive form the experts have prepared tables showing Scottish revenue and expenditure returns separately—and for the first time for about 20 years.

Out of respect for Scottish sentiment the Government have prepared this document, so that the Scots can see what part their country plays in the United Kingdom's financial structure.

Political considerations apart, it is stimulating to find one of our countries wishing to stand back and "take a look at itself" in relation to its partners.

BY-ELECTIONS lack the public interest which general elections attract. If there are exceptions nowadays, it is in seats held by one party or the other on a minority vote—that is, where the combined total of the two losers in a three-cornered fight is more than that of the winner.

But most organisers of by-elections find meetings hard to fill because television is a powerful counter-attraction.

Nor is this true only of by-elections. M.P.s nowadays return to Westminster—after the recess or the weekend break—complaining that "people will not come to meetings."

In time, however, when familiarity with television has bred a more selective outlook, we may find parliamentary debate and public meetings regaining popularity.

After all, we always come back to "the real thing." The "live" theatre has made headway against the tide of celluloid in our cinemas.

ONLY 17,000 out of a total of the 120,000 who bake our bread for us are affected by the Baking Industry (Hours of Work) Bill now passing through Parliament. They are the men who throughout the year work continuously at night.

The Bill aims to restrict the hours of night working. It is strange to reflect that the first attempt to secure this reform failed as far back as 1848—the year of the great social reform movement which swept across Europe.

Many attempts have been made in the past 106 years to ameliorate the conditions under which some bakers work. But a reform is none the less welcome for being late.

DEFINITION: pH is the negative of the logarithm of the hydrogen ion concentration measured in grams per litre of solution.—Dr. Hill, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Food, dealing with the acidity of mineral drinks.

## News from Everywhere

### THE BELLS RING AGAIN

The bells of St. Anne's Church, Alderney, are pealing again after 13 years. They had been taken down by the Germans and shipped to France, where Liberation forces found them. The bells were recast by the Loughborough firm which first installed them at St. Anne's in 1850.

Sherpa Tenzing has received two tartan shirts from the Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand. He had admired similar shirts worn by Sir Edmund Hillary on last year's Everest expedition.

### TOUGH

A china egg sold to a housewife at Sidcup, Kent, had been passed as "Top-grade, British" at a packing station.

Last year some 263,000 students attended LCC technical colleges and evening institutes. About 17 million hours of instruction were given.

An ice-rink in the desert will be one of the features of a British trade fair in Baghdad later this year.

### OLD FOSSIL

A fossil of a sea urchin found at Harefield, Middlesex, is said to be 70 million years old.

One third of all the merchant ships now under construction in the world are being built by the United Kingdom.

Of the £1,700,000 subscribed to the King George VI memorial fund, it is proposed that £1,000,000 should go to young people's organisations, £500,000 to helping old people, and the rest to a permanent memorial in London.

Every new baby born in Holland is to receive a national savings book with a 2s. deposit.

### TO THE POINT

A notice has been put up in Sydney's Botanic Gardens warning people that they must not write on the cactus plants.


Guernsey may not have any more copper coins minted because the cost now exceeds the value of the coins.

One-twelfth of Australia's population has settled there since the war.

### CRUFT'S DOG SHOW

The world-famous Dog Show at Olympia, abandoned this year because of the electricians' strike, would have been the 59th consecutive peace-time show. The article on Cruft's in last week's CN was, of course, printed before the cancellation was announced.

A four-week practice course in chemical engineering is to be held at the Royal Ordnance Factory at Bridgwater, Somerset, this summer for Honours students in their final year at university.



So can you have—a Newmark. A slim, 5-jewelled ladies' watch for 60/-. Or a grand, sturdy man's watch for 36/9. Not a lot, is it, for a really reliable, British-made watch? And they're fully guaranteed—even against accidents. Better start saving now!

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## CAN YOU SPOT THESE DOGS?



START dog spotting right away on the celebrated pink form (L523) which your teacher can obtain in bundles of 50 (together with free chart in full colour identifying 95 breeds) from:—

R. Harvey Johns, Chief Dog Spotter, 10 Seymour St., London, W.1.  
Please hand this to your teacher who will appreciate that Dog Spotting is an educational, open air activity sponsored by The National Canine Defence League to encourage kindness to animals.

WATCH FOR NEW CLUB ACTIVITIES

Teacher's Name .....

Address .....



The Children's Newspaper, February 13, 1954

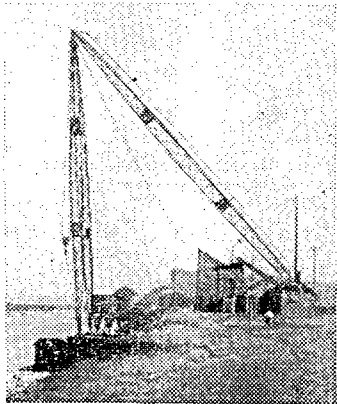
## CHESHIRE LOSES A LANDMARK

The Wirral Peninsula has lost one of its landmarks—a huge tripod lifting apparatus that for over half a century has stood on the grassy bank of the Manchester Ship Canal near its entrance locks at Eastham.

It was used for taking the top off funnels of the bigger steamers to enable them to make the 35-mile inland trip to the Cotton City. It could also lift out masts.

But now the tripod has been replaced with a modern crane set on a concrete wharf a little farther up the waterway.

The reason for the ship surgery that takes place at this point is that in getting to Manchester vessels have to pass under no fewer



The old tripod

than eight fixed bridges, some of which give very little headroom.

Few vessels now have their masts taken out, for they are fitted with what are called "telescopic masts" which allow of the top half to be drawn into the lower. Other modern ships have hinged masts.

The funnel tops (and masts if necessary) are left on the bank at Eastham till the vessel returns from Manchester, when they are replaced. They are a strange sight on the canal bank.

## MAGIC CARPET

Twelve-year-old Susan Barker, of Leeds, was more than a little puzzled when her bedroom carpet began to sprout in one corner. A group of fibres about five inches high was the result.

A microscopic examination by scientists of Leeds University showed that the fibres were a giant species of phycomycetaceae, a threadlike group of fungi which includes the mould which appears on jam. Samples of the fibre have been sent to the Botanical Gardens at Kew for identification.

## FRAGMENT OF CANTERBURY IN NEW YORK

A fragment of stone from historic St. Martin's Church, Canterbury, which dates from the time of the Roman occupation of Britain, has been built into a new oak lectern at St. Martin's Episcopal Church, New York.

## CHAMPION SHRIMP-PEELER

Twenty-year-old Miss Vera Green of Annan, Dumfriesshire, who has been in London for the Hotels and Catering Exhibition at Olympia, is the world champion shrimp-peeler. Her record is 2500 shrimps in an hour.

## RADAR FOR THE BLIND

A device for the blind which works on the principle of radar is now being perfected in the United States.

The apparatus projects a beam of light in front of the blind person as he walks. This beam is translated in the handle of the apparatus into a series of vibrations which indicate to the owner the type of obstacle in his path.

An experimental model of the apparatus has been tested with good results, but it will probably be another two years before the device is in everyday use.

## FAMILY AFFAIR

The Wellington Journal and Shrewsbury News, founded by Thomas Leake, a Wellington printer, is a newspaper which is celebrating its centenary this year. It is also one which has the remarkable record of having been owned and edited by members of the same family throughout its career.

Long associations with the paper is one of the characteristics of its history; 18 members of the staff total 878 years' service.

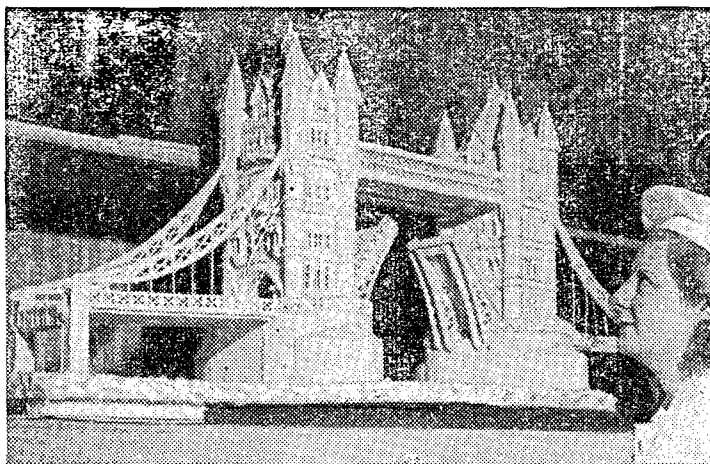
## RECORD VOYAGE

The s.s. Edinburgh Castle has set up a new record for the journey to Cape Town.

After being delayed for five days at Plymouth through engine trouble, she reached Cape Town in 11 days 21½ hours, beating by 14 hours 8 minutes the record set up 16 years ago by the Carnarvon Castle.

## HERO IN CHARGE

Apprentices at the Army School at Harrogate, Yorkshire, will be more than a little proud of the new commandant who is to take charge of them in April. He is Colonel Carne, V.C., leader of the "Glorious Gloucesters" during their brave stand in Korea.



Sweet bridge

This model of Tower Bridge, made entirely of sugar, was shown at an exhibition held recently in London.

## SKID-PREVENTER

Cobbled roads will be made much safer in wet weather if a device recently demonstrated in Yorkshire becomes widely adopted.

On the steep main road into Pateley Bridge, Ministry of Transport officials and public highway engineers saw a German invention burn non-skid furrows one-twentieth of an inch deep into the stone surfaces.

One man manipulates the machine while another controls the flow of oxy-acetylene gas; from 60 to 70 square yards an hour can be dealt with in this way. Costs are much lower than the usual methods of repairing roads.

## STUDYING THE WEATHER

A 12-week evening-class course on the Englishman's main topic of conversation is being held at Goldsmith's College, New Cross, London.

Students are to study the weather for 12 weeks, and among other things will learn about the work that goes into compiling the forecasts.

## HOMING CRABS

Experiments carried out on the Norfolk coast have shown that crabs have a highly developed homing instinct.

Crabs taken from Sheringham and dropped along the coast for distances up to 50 miles all found their way home again, except for one which was later found on the Yorkshire coast nearly 100 miles away.

## TOP DOGS

A dog popularity poll held by the Kennel Club showed that the cocker spaniel leads.

Second is the Alsatian, and third the miniature poodle, which was also the biggest earner among pedigree dogs exported last year.

## ADOPTED BY JACKDAWS

Sir Philip Manson-Bahr, the well-known expert on tropical diseases, who is also a bird lover, recently told this story of jackdaws.

A pair of jackdaws which had caused a great deal of damage near Sir Philip's home near Edenbridge had been shot. Shortly afterwards the cries of young birds indicated that there was now an orphan family in the nest.

Attracted by the clamour, a dozen jackdaws appeared on the scene, circled the nest, then settled on a nearby roof to "discuss" the problem.

Eventually the jackdaws flew away, leaving behind four "foster parents" who for several days attended to the needs of the young birds, then coaxed them away to a place of safety.

## BIRMINGHAM'S NEW MUSEUM

Birmingham now has a Natural History Museum which is intended primarily to appeal to children. It is the Cannon Park Museum, redesigned for this special purpose.

Among the exhibits is the story of the Hoatzin, that remarkable South American bird which has certain reptilian characteristics and has been described as "a living fossil." Other displays include animals in their natural surroundings, and specimens of birds found within a radius of 20 miles of Birmingham.

# £100 IN PRIZES

MUST BE WON—

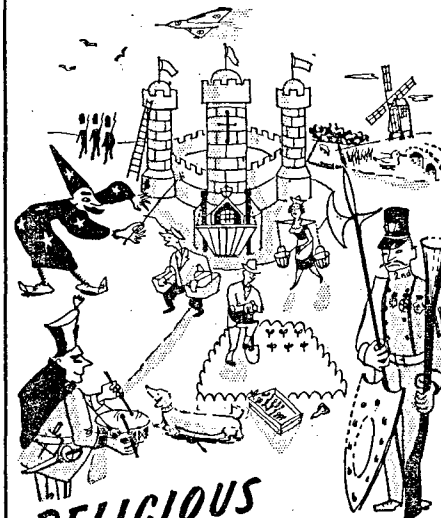
IN ANOTHER GAME OF HUNT-THE-LETTER

## 1st PRIZE £25

(or any gift you like, up to that value).

10 magnificent Watches or Cameras (whichever you prefer). 25 Consolation Prizes of 10/- each.

Here's your second chance to win one of these welcome cash prizes or valuable gifts. It's another easy Curdy Castle Competition.



DELICIOUS  
CURDY CASTLE  
PROCESSED CHEESE

### RULES

1. Study the picture closely and see how many things you can spot containing the letter "D" in their names.
2. Write a letter to "Curdy Castle Competition" at 43 Tooley Street, London, S.E.1, giving a list of all the things you have spotted.
3. Sign your letter and get your parents or guardian to sign it, too, stating that it is all your own work.
4. Enclose one label from a box or portion of delicious Curdy Castle Cheese and post your letter to the above address in good time to reach us no later than March 31st, 1954.
5. Age and handwriting will be taken into consideration. The Judge's decision is final.

Congratulations to Miss Anne Munro, of 113 Nightingale Road, Wood Green, London, N.22, who won First Prize in our last Competition. Perhaps it's your turn now. So get your Mother to put Curdy Castle on her shopping list today. You'll love that, too.



Three young friends

Elizabeth Cruft, 15-year-old great-granddaughter of the founder of the famous Dog Show, with two Samoyed puppies named Team Leader of Kobe and Alaskan Queen of Kobe.



## THE PANTO-BASED PLANE IS ON THE WAY

By the C N Flying Correspondent

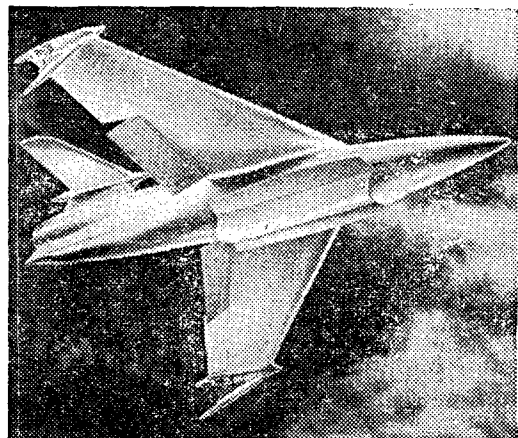
A new term is gradually coming into use in the language of aeronautics: "panto-based." Panto, derived from the Greek *pantos*, meaning all, is being used to describe a new type of fighter aircraft designed to take off from any runway—on land, sea, or ice.

Convair Sea-Dart, which is fitted with hydro-skis. While at rest on the water, the Sea-Dart floats on its wings and fuselage, but when the jets are turned on the plane surges forward and retractable hydro-skis below the surface provide lift.

On panto-based planes, the ski principle is extended to allow the plane to operate from several elements. One British hydro-ski fighter project is the Saro P.121 (pictured here), which is designed for super-sonic speeds.

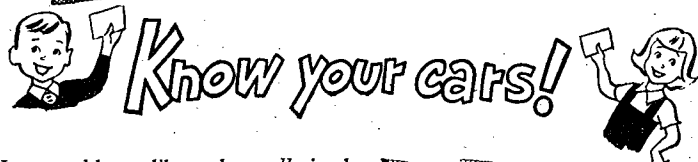
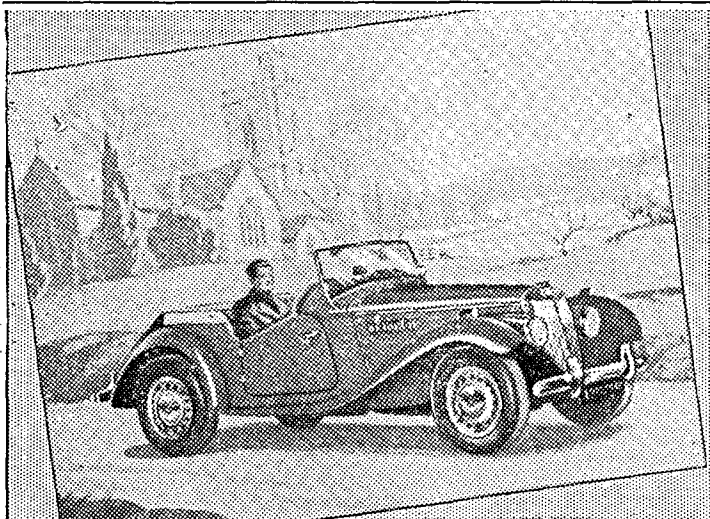
By an ingenious system of double hinges, the lower part of the hull of this aircraft is extended to present a relatively large ski surface to lift it clear of the water at an early stage of take-off. It also deflects the spray from the engine intake.

Projects like the P.121 are the forerunners of the panto-based machines. Just how far British designers have progressed with this type of aircraft has not been divulged, but bearing in mind the huge cost of concrete runways, it seems likely that the first of this new "breed" may appear quite shortly!



One of the greatest drawbacks in the operation of nearly all jet fighters is their need for costly concrete runways up to two miles long. The sole exception is the French Baroudeur which can take off—with or without a special trolley undercarriage—from anything short of a ploughed field. But, of course, it is a land-bound machine.

Panto-based aircraft will be one step forward from planes like the



How would you like to be *really* in the know about modern cars?

All you have to do to become a real whizz-bang authority—the kind of person everyone asks for information—is to collect all 24 of the new series of Kellogg's Corn Flakes back panels: Kellogg's Car Cards.

They are large drawings in full colour of leading British cars. Printed with each one is a brief description of the car, its engine and performance.

Ask your mum to buy Kellogg's Corn Flakes for breakfast. Then all you have to do is to cut out and collect this magnificent new series.



**BE AN EXPERT! Collect Kellogg's Car Cards!**

## It happened this week

### THE QUEEN MARRIES

FEBRUARY 10, 1840.—In the Chapel Royal at St. James's Palace, London, her Majesty Queen Victoria was today married to her cousin, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg.

From dawn—while bands played "Haste to the Wedding"—cheering crowds had surged around the Palace, and more than 2000 guests lined the sumptuous rooms through which the bridal procession wound its way to the Chapel Royal.

The 20-year-old queen was a radiant figure in a magnificent gown of white Spitalfield silk. Her veil of Honiton lace was held in place with a diamond pin.

The smiling young Prince wore a Field-Marshal's uniform. This, it seems, was the result of the Duke of Wellington's advice. "He must wear a red coat," said the Duke, "otherwise people won't believe he is English."

The Prince has been Field-Marshal for only one day. The queen promoted him to that rank yesterday.

### SCOTTISH MYSTERY

FEBRUARY 11, 1567.—James Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell, has today offered a reward of £2000 for information leading to the capture of the murderer of Lord Darnley, 21-year-old consort of Mary, Queen of Scots.

But posters already appearing in Edinburgh accuse the earl of being the murderer, and the populace are talking darkly of vengeance.

The circumstances of Lord Darnley's death are indeed strange. The house in which he had lain ill was blown up early yesterday morning, but when his body was found in a nearby garden it had no marks of burning upon it.

There is evidence to support the belief that Lord Darnley was strangled *before* the explosion.

Two hours before the explosion the queen had left the house and gone to Holyrood Palace to attend the wedding party of a royal servant. Later that night, it is stated, the earl and some companions were seen filling the room on the ground floor with gunpowder.

When the news of the tragedy was brought to Queen Mary she was breakfasting in bed, eating a new-laid egg. It is reported that she received the news quite calmly.

### WIG-MAKERS

FEBRUARY 12, 1765.—Londoners are chuckling today over a "hair-raising tale" told to King George [George III].

A deputation from the Master Wig-Makers of London told his Majesty that they face ruin because of the new fashion of gentlemen wearing their own hair.

A wit has followed that up by publishing an alleged petition from the "Body Carpenters" imploring his Majesty to aid them by wearing a wooden leg and inducing his servants to adopt this fashion.

ON THE AIR—By Ernest Thomson, our Radio and T V Correspondent

## REPORT ON BRITAIN'S MAIN ROADS

B B C film cameras have just toured a typical network of Britain's main roads to discover how good or bad they are on an ordinary weekday. Viewers will see the results of this Special Inquiry on Friday in a screen journey from London to Newport (Mon.) via Birmingham, and back through Cardiff and Ross-on-Wye.

On the road will be Robin Richards, well-known motoring radio commentator, reporting to Robert Reid in the TV studio. Questions they will try to answer include: Can the nation afford to spend more money on roads at the expense of the railways? Are roads too narrow, causing costly delays? Are accidents due more to the poor state of the roads than to bad driving?

### T V for East Anglia

EAST ANGLIA, one of TV's "neglected areas," will have its own transmitter by the end of the year, one of six new low-power stations which should practically complete television coverage of the United Kingdom.

The probable site of the new Norfolk station is on a small hill at Tacolneston, ten miles from Norwich. The power will be five kilowatts, which should give good service all over East Anglia.

Other low-power stations will be erected at Dover, Inverness, Londonderry, Towyn (N. Wales), and Carlisle.

### Test-piece

E. W. SWANTON, talking direct from the Kensington Oval at Bridgetown, will this week be giving his summaries on the England v. West Indies Test Match at Barbados.

A BBC engineer has been telling me that these broadcasts are always a problem. Swanton's



E. W. Swanton

voice comes by radio telephone and is picked up at any one of three Post Office receiving stations—Baldock, Cooling (Kent), or Somerton (Somerset)—depending on which is getting the best signal.

At the BBC the engineers must decide quickly whether the quality is good enough for broadcasting. If not, the speech is either taken down in shorthand or electrically recorded to enable a studio summary to be prepared.

### Singing schoolmaster

JOHN RUNGE, who sings with the guitar in Children's Hour next Saturday (February 13), is Physics Master at Sherborne School. He "collects" folk songs while touring the Continent in the holidays.

### Viewing and listening

THE Name's the Same, winner of a Daily Mail National Radio Award as the most promising new feature, was a big loss to the Light Programme when it transferred to TV in January.

This amusing parlour game, in which panel members are confronted by ordinary people bearing the same name as celebrities, historical characters, and familiar objects.

Rooney Pelletier, Assistant Light Programme Chief, tells me that plans are being made to broadcast it simultaneously on radio and TV. Listeners would hear an additional commentary to make up for what they missed in vision.

### Tours in the country

COUNTRY excursions by TV are to begin in April. Every Sunday afternoon the cameras will visit farms and woodlands. This will be an all-Regional effort, with emphasis on farm topics, though time will be devoted to open-air life generally, with activities like horsemanship, bird-watching, bee-keeping, and the care of pets.

Godfrey Baseley, the well-known Midland broadcaster now permanently attached to TV, is mapping out a series of tours in each of the regions.

### In the W R A F

A SMART uniform is not the only attraction that the W R A F has for many girls. In I Want to be... in Children's Hour on Saturday the theme is I Want to Join the W R A F.

Producer John Lane tells me that on-the-spot recordings have been made at a Fighter Command map plotting and control school and at an Officers' Training Centre.

### 400 years later

LADY JANE GREY, "nine-day queen of England," was executed in the Tower on February 12, 1554. Exactly 400 years and a day later her sad story is the theme of a new radio play by Anthony Skene, The High and Mighty, in the Home Service on Saturday.

Lady Jane will be played by Victoria Hopper, and Mary Tudor by Joan Miller.

### Colour T V in America

RADIO experts predict that 100,000 colour TV receivers, costing about £350 apiece, will be operating in America by the end of this year.

Black-and-white receivers will be convertible to colour systems, although this will cost nearly as much as a new colour receiver. Owners of present receivers, however, will be able to see the same picture—without colour.



# GATEWAYS TO SUCCESS

## 15—The Institute of Archaeology

A CAREER in archaeology is admittedly one for the very few. But if to be really happy at one's work is to be successful, then here is a gateway to success indeed. For, to judge from what I saw at the Institute of Archaeology it seems that once anyone has been well bitten by the fascination of this subject they become really absorbed in it.

One of the reasons for this, I think, is that archaeology is often so like detective work. It trains the student to spot clues and then follow them up in a way untrained people could never do.

Archaeology is that part of science, or knowledge, which deals with the story of man before he started making written records—pre-history, as it is called.

It must be remembered, of course, that history and pre-history often overlap. There were written records of Egypt and China long before there were any in Britain; and there are, in this atomic age, people in the Australian deserts and the Amazon jungles who are still living in the Stone Age.

Compared with other kinds of scientist the archaeologist is rather a rare person, not often seen

except in universities, a few Government offices (such as the Ministry of Works), or your local museum; but sometimes one may be seen in charge of a "dig" where excavations on some new housing estate or proposed factory site have unearthed something which needs investigating before the soil is disturbed finally and for ever.

But the number of archaeological jobs available is always small.

THE University of London opened its Institute of Archaeology in 1937. It is housed in a handsome white building in the middle of Regent's Park, and the garden outside, one of the most beautiful spots in London, is known to thousands as Queen Mary's Garden. The building is within sight and sound of the Zoo and, appropriately enough, was the residence, about a century ago, of one of the founders of the University.

No first degree in archaeology is granted by London University, but there is a diploma in one or other of the various branches—European, Classical, Indian, or Chinese

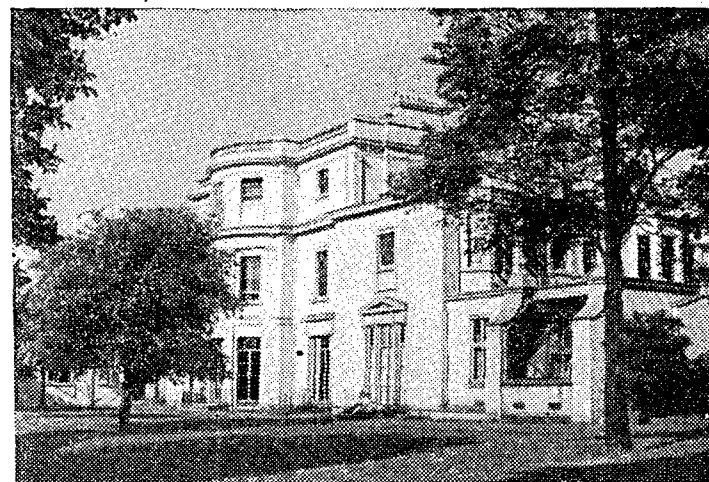
archaeology. And the first requirement before entering the Institution is a B.A. degree, say in Ancient History, Geography, or Anthropology. The course takes two years if done full-time or three years if part-time.

On the technical side you need to learn something about surveying and how to use a theodolite, because accurate plans must be made of any hill-forts, dwelling sites, pottery kilns, and so on, which are to be investigated.

The ability to make sectional drawings of pottery is useful, and photography is vital, so that an exact record can be made and published of just how any specimen or specimens were located on the actual site where they were found.

THERE is a special technique of how to set about field work, the actual excavation of a site, whether in a cave or on a hillside. This has to be learned both in the lecture room and also by going out and helping to do the job under skilled supervision.

These "digs" are done during the holidays. Digging up evidence of man's progress through the ages



The Institute of Archaeology in Regent's Park, London

can be a very thrilling business; but precious knowledge can easily be lost unless you know exactly what you are doing and how to set about it in the right way.

Then there is the laboratory side. You must know some anatomy and biology, for you are often dealing with the bones of men and animals; and some chemistry, especially soil chemistry, this being necessary for the preservation and repair of specimens.

A bronze spearhead or brooch which has lain in the earth for 2000 years must have the rust removed. This can be done by a process which includes suspending it in a glass tank of chemical and passing an electric current through it. It is only when all the harmful oxides and chlorides have been removed that you can varnish your specimen (to keep the air out) and make it ready for display.

I saw some fragments of elephant tusks dug up beside the Thames at Swanscombe, near Gravesend. The ivory was so soaked by water that it had become as soft as soap. But the pieces were saturated with plastic and then fitted together to make the whole tusk once more. Holding it in one's hand, it was strange to think of elephants and men living together in what we call Kent.

I saw an earthenware pot put together in the same way. It belonged to that primitive period before men knew how to make pottery strong enough to stand on a fire and had to heat water by dropping red-hot stones in, one by one.

Soil surrounding the traces early

man has left behind him can be tested for their mineral content by various electric meters. If you suspected the presence, say, of metal tools or weapons on a buried site (though they have now disappeared through rust), you could make a number of such tests in cross-section and, by plotting the results to scale, find out their exact former position.

ATOMIC physics now come into archaeology with the introduction of the so-called C14 (Carbon Fourteen) method of estimating the age of traces of once living things found under the earth. For instance, the probable age of Stonehenge has been computed from some charcoal found in a pit near the circumference.

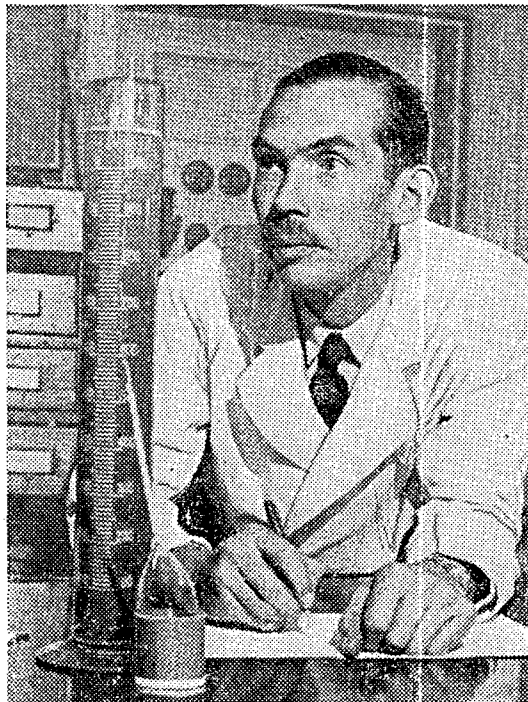
Some of the carbon, present in all living things, is radio-active and the rate at which radiations are given off can be measured. By finding out how much activity still remained in the charcoal a fairly accurate idea could be formed of how long it had been in the pit. And it was thought that sacrificial fires were lighted, customarily, when the pits were first dug.

Besides the professional archaeologists, interested members of the public can attend lectures by becoming subscribing members of the Institute. In this way they may get the chance to spend a week or fortnight in camp or lodgings near the site of one of the vacation "digs," and take part in unearthing yet one more set of clues to the way our ancestors lived.

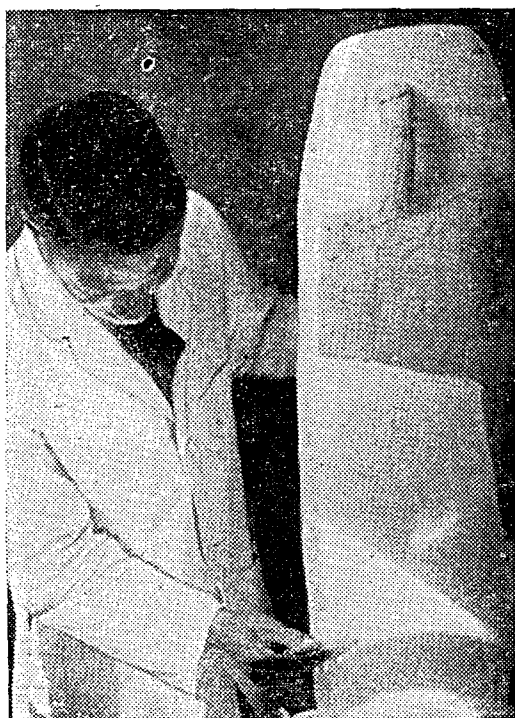
A list of excavations in progress can always be obtained from the Council for British Archaeology, 10 Bolton Gardens, London, S.W.10. A. V. I.



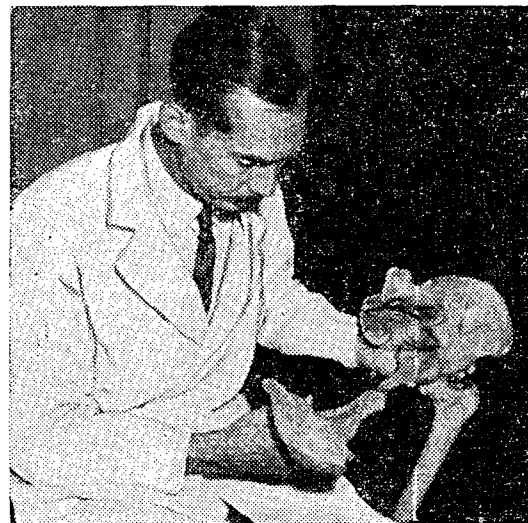
Making a plaster cast of a flint implement



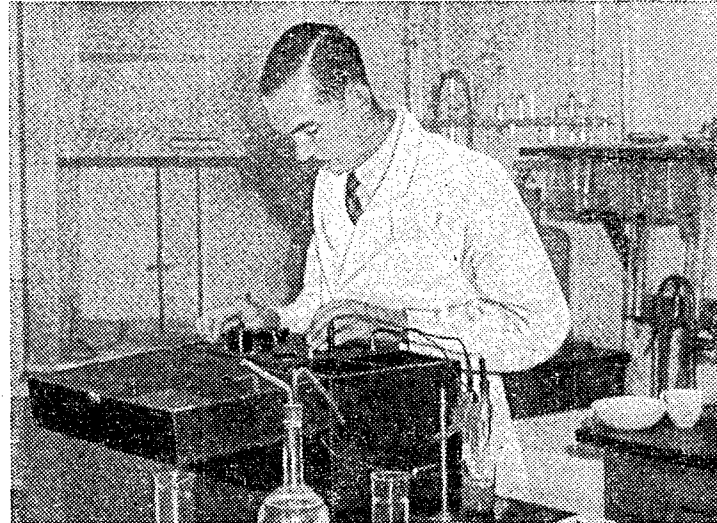
Measuring particles of soil with a hydrometer



Cleaning a Roman jar from Tripoli



Comparing Iron Age bones with modern bones



Electrically testing soil for traces of acid or alkali



# Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House  
Whitefriars · London · EC4  
FEBRUARY 13 . . . . . 1954

## SHINING EXAMPLE

A LADY was about to cross a busy London street the other day when she was pulled back by a 12-year-old lad.

He said: "Excuse me, Lady, you can't do that," and, while they waited, gave her a road safety talk. Then he gallantly escorted her across the street.

The lady, an Alderman of Bermondsey, was impressed, and she invited the boy, Dennis Clark, to meet the Mayor and Councillors. She praised his manly action and said: "It shows we are never too old to learn."

If only we all displayed Dennis Clark's thoughtfulness for others the appalling toll of the roads would be more than halved.

## BREAD AND BUTTER FIGURES

SPEAKING of our need for increasing exports, Lord Aldenham, Chairman of Westminster Bank, has said: "It is a pity that the figure of our monthly exports cannot be made as exciting as a football 'league table'; since if we lose our place in the export 'league table' it is our bread and butter that is at stake."

In other words, exports form the "table" at which we all eat. The fewer the exports, the less money will there be for imports!



## Under the Editor's Table

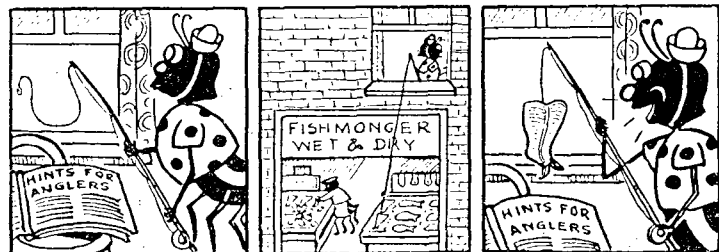
PETER PUCK  
WANTS TO  
KNOW

If people see stars  
when they are  
stage struck

Some things bought at a sale were said to be dirt cheap. But dirt is dear at any price.

How to Become a Seasoned Traveller, is the title of a newspaper article. Getting a season ticket is one way.

BILLY BEETLE



# The Editor's Table

## ATOMS FOR PEACE

BRITAIN has become the first country to ratify a convention under which many European countries will pool their money, talents, and resources to develop the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

The chief project will be the construction of a European Laboratory for Nuclear Research near Geneva.

For the past 18 months some 50 experts have been at work on the plans for the laboratory and the equipment it will contain.

All research undertaken by the centre will be of a non-military nature, and the results will be made available to all.

Unesco, which has sponsored the project, believes that this venture marks a new era in science. Certainly it is a heartening example of nations united in a common effort for the good of all mankind.

## Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper,  
February 16, 1924

THE building-up of Canberra to be the federal capital of the Australian Commonwealth is now going on vigorously.

One sign of it is that the Federal Cabinet, representing all Australia, has held its first meeting on the chosen site to study personally the best ways of developing the new capital.

Work is going on on the Parliament House, and on the accommodation that must be provided for the members and officials and others.

A large number of applications have been received for building sites in Canberra.

## JUST AN IDEA

As R. L. Stevenson wrote: Every heart that has beat strong and cheerfully has left a hopeful impulse behind it in the world, and bettered the tradition of mankind.

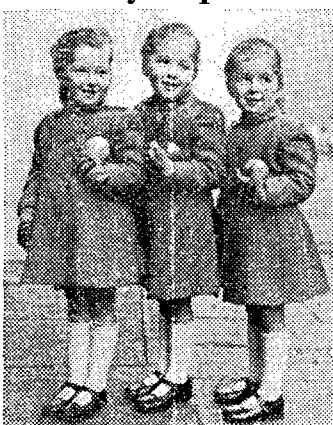
## From the ruins

AFTER 13 years of standing as a blackened ruin on London's Holborn Viaduct, the famous City Temple is to be rebuilt.

Although it will be smaller than the former church—whose famed preacher Joseph Parker described the back pews as "being in the Rocky Mountains"—it will begin to rise as one more sign of London's determination to set its house in order.

Many other ruins are to be turned into fine new buildings, and it is high time; far too long have parts of the Empire's capital looked all forlorn!

## Jolly triplets



Natalie, Madeline, and Angela Newman, who are now five, setting out for school near Regent Street, London.

## A little mixed

A CONTRIBUTOR to the C N sends this story of his little boy Raymond, aged 3½.

He came home from Sunday School thrilled with the story he had heard about the visit of the Boy Jesus to Jerusalem.

"And what did He go to Jerusalem for?" asked his father. Raymond had the story off pat. "He went to see Cinderella, of course," he said.

It took father—and mother—quite a time to sort that one out, but at length light dawned.

The Sunday School teacher had spoken of the *synagogue*; imagination had done the rest!

## Think on These Things

CHAPTER 6 of the Gospel of St. Luke tells of two men who each built a house.

The houses may have looked alike from the outside but they had vastly different foundations.

A high wind blew, rain fell in torrents, and swept one of the houses away; it was built on sand. The other withstood the storm, for it was built on a rock.

By this story Jesus meant to convey to his disciples the truth that their lives needed a sure foundation. He said that His teaching was such a foundation, that those who heeded His words were like the man who built his house on a rock.

F. P.

## PLAIN SPEAKING

IT is not always wise to say just what you think, however indignant you may happen to be feeling.

There was an example of this in Paris recently when a student who had not done well in his year's work took advantage of the oral part of his examination to air his grievances.

A student at the school for training higher Civil Servants, he had to speak on a given theme, and he turned it into a condemnation of the French Civil Service. He concluded by saying he could not devote his life to it, and the examining board, it seems, were in complete agreement with him.

One cannot help wondering whether this over-frank student will one day regret his impetuosity. The hasty word can never be recalled.

## Talking of weather

UNLIKE their elders, most boys and girls find the weather an interesting topic only when it does something particularly interesting; such as producing piles of glorious snow or blowing a chimney off the school roof.

But adult preoccupation with it seems to have spread to sixth-formers. For when, last December, a lecture on Weather Forecasting was arranged for them by the L.C.C. there was such a rush to attend that many had to be turned away. A second lecture for them was arranged and held recently.

To be sure, meteorology is a most important subject. But let us hope that the sixth-formers will stick to its scientific aspect, and not become mere weather pessimists.

## Indomitable

ALTHOUGH stricken by polio and in an iron lung, the Revd. Maurice Hardman, 29-year-old Anglican minister, speaks his weekly sermon into a microphone to make a tape-recording for his congregation in Stonewall, Canada. He has been in hospital four months.

## THEY SAY . . .

THE greatness of a man is demonstrated not alone by what he accomplishes, but also by his efforts to understand and sympathise with those who are afflicted or suffering dire poverty.

The Lord Mayor of Manchester in a tribute to Mr. Attlee

I THINK we are nicer people than we were when I was young.

Mr. Somerset Maugham

TALKING makes you warm. It keeps the circulation going. If you are ever cold try making a speech.

Mrs. Freda Corbet, M.P.

A MOTHER who expects consideration and necessary help, particularly from her sons, is teaching them to become the courteous helpmeets in life. The mother who lives at the beck and call of her children is not helping them in this respect.

The Home Secretary

YOUNG people should have a pretty clear idea of what they want to do with their lives. Some, no doubt, will change their minds and arrive at destinations outside present planning, but that does not affect the fact that they should steer a course rather than drift.

Sir Hector Hetherington,  
Principal of Glasgow University

## Out and About

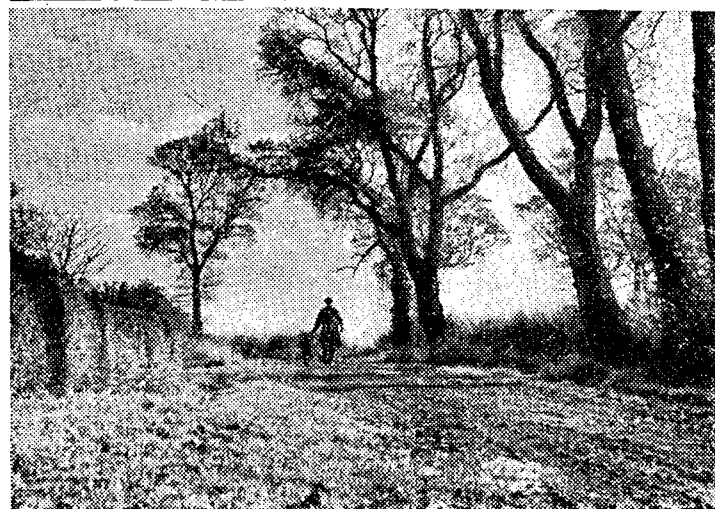
THE sight of a rook carrying twigs to the top of the elm tree means that nest-building in preparation for the real Spring has started in real earnest.

Some birds went so far as to nest and lay eggs last December; they were deceived, as birds often are, by unseasonable weather. But they may have to start all over again soon, for frost will probably have prevented the eggs hatching or may cause starvation for the young before they are fledged.

The difference between now and December is not just in the weather but in the fact that the days have since lengthened. It is the steady growth of sunlight that brings on the Spring-like flood of life.

Bad weather now cannot long delay the arrival of Spring, for the daily portion of sunlight goes on increasing until summer is here.

C. D. D.



## OUR HOMELAND

Winter sunshine at  
Stanford-le-Hope, Essex



The Children's Newspaper, February 12, 1954  
The C.N. Film Correspondent asks . . .

## IS JOURNALISM REALLY LIKE THIS?

FLEET STREET is the background of the film called *Front Page Story*. The view from the window of the newspaper office in this film is one familiar to every London journalist.

But to most cinema-goers the question naturally arises: how true to life is *Front Page Story*? How close to reality are News

other people's lives reach their climaxes.

Jack Hawkins is magnificent as the News Editor. He is tough but tender, cynical but driven by his conscience, capable of fury and of humour. As his staff and colleagues Derek Farr, Michael Goodliffe, Walter Fitzgerald, Patricia Marmont, and radio's Michael Howard are types that might well be found within a stone's throw of the Children's Newspaper office.

In the midst of all this acting talent and fine direction by Gordon Parry there is ten-year-old Jenny Jones, the eldest of the Cockney family faced with tragedy. Jenny is magnificent. Her scenes with Jack Hawkins are genuinely touching.

Nor must Eva Bartok be forgotten. As the woman on trial for her life at the Old Bailey she does not have to say a single word throughout the entire film! But she gives a fine performance.

Well, is newspaper journalism in London's "Street of Ink" really like this? As an experienced newspaperman myself I say: Yes, very often. But perhaps not all on the same day!

### FOUND UNDER THE BATHROOM FLOOR

"Roman remains have been found under our new bathroom floor," said the captain of Chailey Minors Football Club to his teammates.

Odd pieces of pottery had been found by workmen during digging operations at his Chorley home. But when the pottery was sent to the Sussex Archaeological Society's museum at Lewes it proved to be not Roman but the work of Belgae people, who reached South-East Britain from Gaul some 2000 years ago. It is similar to pottery found farther north in Sussex, along the Ouse Valley at Horsted Keynes.

Now members of Chailey Minors F.C. are planning an away fixture—in the form of a visit to the Lewes museum to see the treasure found beneath their skipper's bathroom floor.

### FEEDING COWS TO KEEP MILK FRESH

The best way to keep milk fresh, scientists have decided, is to feed cows on a harmless chemical called menadione. The milk they yield then stays fresh four times as long as normally.

### On the Royal Route

Continuing their tour of New South Wales, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will this Friday (February 12) fly over the lovely Blue Mountains to Bathurst, writes an Australian correspondent. This country town of the outback is set amid some of Australia's richest pasture land, and during their flight they will see the merino sheep grazing below, thousands upon thousands of them.

Famed all over the world for its wool, the merino is a natural wandering sheep. They are not at their best unless there is plenty of land, and that is why Australia, with its vast open spaces, has been able to use them to such advantage.

Bathurst itself was home town of one of Australia's great sons, Joseph Benedict Chifley. He started here as a locomotive cleaner and rose to become the Prime Minister who led his country through a vital post-war development period. He died in 1951.

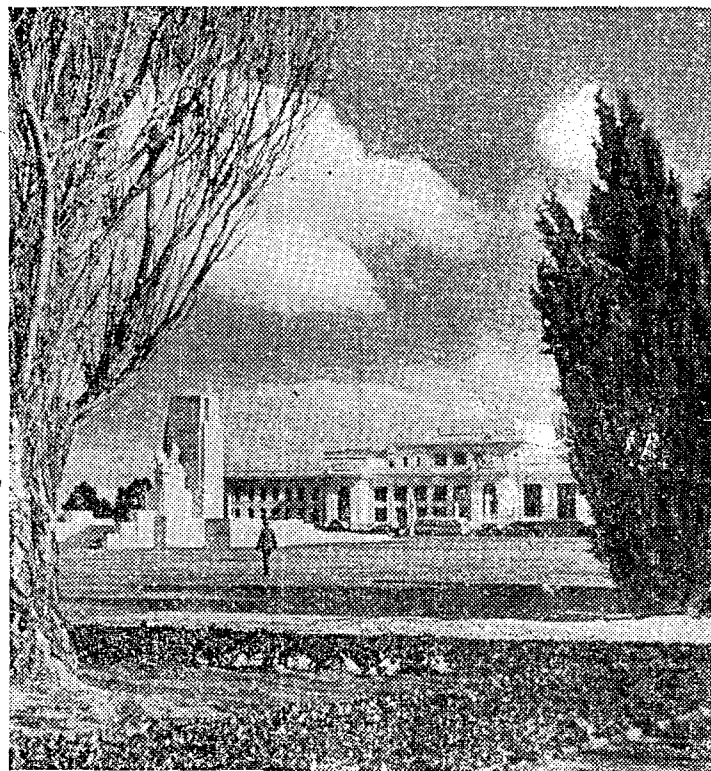
### TYPICAL TOWN

The Royal Party's stay in Bathurst will be brief, little more than an hour, but they will see a town which is typical of the hundreds of similar settlements which have grown up as Australia has become more decentralised. In the early days they were little more than trading centres for surrounding farmers, but today industry has expanded from the big capital cities to the smaller country towns and some of Australia's most modern factories, in bush settings, now surround them.

Later on Friday, the Royal couple will travel back to Sydney, this time by train through the Blue Mountains, with stops en route at Bowenfels, Lithgow, Katoomba, and Leura.

On Saturday morning they will fly to Wagga, where they will attend a civic reception and a schoolchildren's gathering and display, which will include an

## VISIT TO CANBERRA



Federal Parliament House at Canberra

exhibition of boomerang throwing by two Aboriginal children. A special boomerang for Prince Charles will afterwards be presented to them.

From Wagga the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will fly on to Canberra, Australia's capital.

### MODERN CITY

Built primarily to house the Federal Parliament, Canberra is little more than a quarter of a century old.

Set at the foot of Mount Stromlo, famous for its observatory and ionospheric research station, Canberra is in typically Australian bush country in the south-eastern corner of New South Wales. It is hot in the summer and cold in the winter. Temperatures over a hundred are common in February, but in

June and July they are often near to freezing.

The stately Parliament House adds dignity to this quiet place, and proclaims that Australia, like the rest of the British Commonwealth, is founded on the fundamental principles of democracy. It will stage a historic scene on Monday, February 15, when the Queen opens a sitting of the Australian Parliament.

The Australian Federal Parliament was formed in 1901 and held its sittings in Melbourne until 1927, when the Canberra Houses of Parliament were opened by the late King George VI—during his visit to Australia as Duke of York.

### AMERICAN MEMORIAL

On Tuesday, February 16, the Queen will unveil the 250-foot-high Australian National War Memorial to the American forces on the outskirts of Canberra. This unusual octagonal shafted memorial, with an American eagle of aluminium perched on top of it, is visible for many miles.

Later they will visit the Australian War Memorial, which among other things is a museum of war relics. Here they will see the stately tri-engined Southern Cross, a high-winged monoplane flown by the greatest of all Australia's pioneer airman, Sir Charles Kingsford Smith—"the old bus" he called it.

### BEAUTIFUL GARDENS

Before they leave Canberra the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will see some of the finest homes and gardens in Australia. They will spend the best part of a day with Mr. and Mrs. Menzies at the Prime Minister's lodge, set in beautiful undulating country. Then they will go to Governor-General Sir William Slim's Yarralumla home which, like the Prime Minister's lodge, has finely wooded grounds with many gum trees to give it a bush setting.



### Puppet masters

Gerald Trythorne and Peter Gillett, both aged 14, and 13-year-old Keith Stevenson often give puppet shows in aid of charities. Here we see the boys, who live in Hayes, Kent, with the puppets and stage which they made themselves.



## MISSIONARY AND MOUNTAIN

Africa's loftiest peak is to bear the name of a devoted missionary. Dr. Richard Reusch. Mighty, snow-capped Kilimanjaro, soaring 19,340 feet above Tanganyika's northern plains, has twin summits. The highest will, on future maps, commemorate this 62-year-old Lutheran who for 32 years has lived among the Masai people.

Kibo is the native name for the major peak, and they have long called Dr. Reusch "Son of Kibo," in simple tribute to his mountaineering exploits. No fewer than 65 times has he conquered Kilimanjaro's fabled ice-chasms and ash-cone.

Dr. Reusch went from a Leipzig mission to Tanganyika soon after the First World War.

With a tropical "parish," vast and lonely, the Son of Kibo has devoted himself to the Masai. He has built schools, clinics, and huts, and made highly valuable surveys of the territory. Fearless and cool, he has also saved many an African life.

Kilimanjaro was discovered more than a century ago by two German missionary-explorers, Dr. Krapf and Mr. Rebmann; and its two peaks, shimmering beneath the tropical sun, has since challenged many.

## BOOK TOKENS FOR 20 CN READERS

CONGRATULATIONS to the winners in CN Competition No. 44:

William Addison, Banff; Keith Blackwood, Southall; Melvyn Buck, Stanmore; Mary Coates, Derby; Sheila Cork, Stoke; Margaret Davies, Rhyl; Elspeth Deane, Edinburgh; David Dixon, Bournemouth; Monica Dunn, Southfields; Anthony Gabe, Haywards Heath; Philip Grist, Sheffield; Yvonne Haffenden, Tunbridge Wells; Lynn Jackson, Ramsey; John Kirk, Taunton; David Mayfield, Chesterfield; Patricia Ross, Bedford; Elizabeth Scott, Dunbar; Ivan Short, Bristol; Philip Smith, Bath; Joan Swain, Tintagel.

## Steps to Sporting Fame



Among Len Hutton's cricketers now touring the West Indies is one with no previous experience of international cricket—Ken Suttle, the Sussex left-hander.



Ken, 25, has had only two full seasons of County cricket. His batting has been a trifle uneven, his fielding brilliant. He is one of the young players coached by the immortal Patsy Hendren, the former England batsman.



Suttle is also a professional footballer in the Kent League. After his selection for the West Indies he gave up actual play, but remained in training. He also kept in trim by running along the beach at his Worthing home.

## Ken Suttle



And now he is the comrade of such boyhood heroes as Len Hutton and Denis Compton, who were batting for England when Ken was only eight years old. His talent has opened the door to a new field of play—and ahead may lie Australia.

## JUSTICE TO GLASGOW

Tales of stirring deeds are recorded in many pages of a new book in the Queen's Scotland series (Glasgow, Kyle, and Galloway, edited by Theo Lang, Hodder & Stoughton, 20s.). For this corner of Scotland is a land of great men—of Robert the Bruce, Wallace, David Livingstone, and many others.

Here, too, a desperate struggle for freedom of worship was waged, and in every kirkyard and on the hills and by the streams of Galloway are memorials of the Covenanters' bitter martyrdoms.

But the south-west of Scotland has far more to offer than memories of the strife of long ago. It has the natural beauty which inspired Robert Burns, such as the "banks and braes of Bonnie Doon." Above all it has its sturdy people's proud achievements.

Glasgow itself is a much-slandered city, and Theo Lang's book does it a much-needed service in showing the world its grandeur: its fine buildings, its peerless art treasures, its university where genius has been cradled and has flourished, and its vast industry, without which, says the writer, "Scotland" would most miserably starve and die."

## PRISONER OF THE CHATEAU D'IF

The Count of Monte Cristo, which starts as a picture-story in next week's CN, is perhaps the most dramatic of all the many stories by Alexandre Dumas. Certainly it has a theme which gave full play to his imagination.

A young man who is too frank and friendly to suspect that he has enemies, is condemned to be forgotten in a dungeon because his success stood in the ambitious paths of base men. His strange adventures, and the change in his artless character as he realises the depths of his enemies' perfidy, make this book one of the classics of romantic literature.

## GREAT BATHING FESTIVAL OF THE HINDUS

What is claimed to be the biggest temporary town in the world, a town of tents and huts, has been set up on the banks of the Ganges near Allahabad to accommodate about five million Hindu pilgrims attending the great religious bathing ceremony called Kumbh Mela. They have been arriving in their tens of thousands since the middle of January.

Kumbh Mela is held every 12 years, but this year's festival is of special significance to the Hindus because certain stars are in a position which occurs only once in a century.

## BANANAS WITH TWO SKINS

Bananas from South America are now being shipped overseas wrapped in a transparent plastic film one-thousandth of an inch thick. Fruit growers and merchants have found that the protective wrapping preserves the flavour of the freshly-gathered fruit.

By retaining the moisture in the fruit, the plastic film ensures that the bananas reach the consumer in a fresher condition than those that are unprotected.

The pilgrims' purpose is to wash away their sins by bathing where the sacred Ganges and the Jumna rivers meet. Another sacred river, the Saraswati, which disappears in the sand a long way from Allahabad, is believed to join the two others underground here.

It is this meeting of the sacred rivers that makes Allahabad the most hallowed place in India among the Hindus. They believe that the deities Brahma, Vishnu, and Siva all made sacrifices here, and they still call the city by its ancient name, Prayag, which means, "the place of sacrifice."

By March 3, when the festival ends, millions will have bathed in the waters. The pilgrims are of all classes, rich and poor, town-folk and peasants. India's President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, will be there, and so will Mr. Nehru, the Prime Minister.

Caring for this teeming host has set problems for the authorities, and will cost some ten million rupees. A special detachment of soldiers has been employed on such tasks as providing extra electric, telegraph, and telephone services, putting three pontoon

bridges across the river, building river dykes, and establishing ration dumps.

The health of the pilgrims is safeguarded by compulsory inoculation for all newcomers at 16 posts outside the city, and by the spreading of tons of insecticide over all approaches to the bathing places. Hospitals have been set up and 7000 extra sweepers employed to keep the city clean.

Every day special pilgrim trains keep arriving, and many more thousands are also coming from distant places on foot—some have been travelling for six months.

## FASTER-THAN-SOUND TRAINER

The world's first two-seater training aircraft capable of flying faster than sound recently made its first flight in California. It is a new version of the Sabre.

Only two major alterations were made to the Sabre's airframe to compensate for the longer cockpit seating two in tandem, a duplicate instrument panel, and dual controls: the fuselage was extended by five feet and the wings were moved forward slightly.

## THE AFRICAN JOURNEYS OF MUNGO PARK—picture-story of a famous explorer (final instalment)



Mungo's little party took their baggage down the Niger to Sansanding in two hired canoes. They needed a much bigger one for their river voyage, and to raise the money for it they opened a "shop" and sold much of their goods. After doing a fine trade they bought a large boat, 40 feet long and 6 feet wide. At Sansanding Mungo sent his guide Isaaco back to the coast with his journals and letters.



Mungo now set out on the last tragic stage of his immortal journey. Mr. Anderson and George Scott had died, and the party was reduced to five white men and four natives, including the new guide, Amadi Fatouma. It was this trustworthy man who afterwards told the world of Mungo's fate. He related that they passed villages without stopping to give presents to the chiefs, and were therefore continually attacked.



They passed Timbuctoo, and in the land of the Hausas, Amadi left them, this being as far as he had agreed to guide them. Mungo gave him some gifts for the local "king." But a village chief, hearing that the explorers would not return this way, but were going to "where the river joined the salt water," kept the gifts for himself and told the king that the white men had left without giving presents to anyone.



Amadi denied this, but the enraged king would not believe him, and had him put in irons. Warriors were sent to await Mungo at a place where rocks stretched across the river with only one narrow passage. Here, after a desperate battle, all the white men were killed. Such was the story Amadi, who was eventually released, brought back to the coast. No more reliable news was ever heard of gallant Mungo Park.

A picture-version of The Count of Monte Cristo, by Alexandre Dumas, begins on this page next week



The Children's Newspaper, February 13, 1954

A new serial about Linbury Court Preparatory School

# ACCORDING TO JENNINGS

By Anthony Buckeridge

Jennings and Darbshire unwittingly lock General Merridew, a distinguished Old Boy, in the library at Linbury Court School under the impression that the room is occupied by their friends in Form Three, with whom they are playing an exciting game of lunar exploration.

## 1. Mr. Carter takes charge

ALL the way downstairs to the tuck-box room, Jennings gurgled with laughter at the thought of Venables, Atkinson, and Temple locked in the library. Obviously, his next move must be to find someone to whom he could tell the story, and with this in mind he pranced into the tuck-box room—and saw Venables, Atkinson, and Temple sitting on the hot pipes in the far corner.

He stopped in mid-prance, his eyes goggling with amazement.

"Fossilised fishhooks! However did you chaps get down here? I've just locked you in the libe," he gasped.

"That's what you thought," grinned Venables.

"We did just look in, as it happened," said Temple. "But we beetled out again at supersonic m.p.h. when we found the old geezer was in there."

"What old geezer?"

"General Merridew, of course. Old Wilkie told us he was coming this afternoon; don't you remember?"

## Shock for Jennings

General Merridew! The room swam before Jennings' eyes. He rocked on his heels and clutched at a stack of tuck-boxes for support.

"Oh, my goodness! This is frantic," he moaned faintly. "Do you know what I've done? ... I've locked him in."

"What!"

"Petrified paintpots! You must be stark, raving cuckoo!" cried Venables, aghast; and for five seconds the boys stood staring at one another in horrified silence.

"And that's not all," Jennings went on. "I told him he was up a gum-tree, and I hoped it kept fine for him. And Darbshire recited poetry at him through the key-hole."

"Phew! What a ghastly bish. Whatever must he be thinking?" queried Temple.

"Who—Darbshire? He doesn't know yet."

"No; General Merridew, you clodpoll! All very well to tell him he's up a gum-tree, but it's nothing to the gum-tree you won't half be up when he gets loose," said Temple. "If you ask me, you've gone and landed yourself feet first in the most lobsterous hoo-hah since the Wars of the Roses."

At that moment the duty master's heavy footfall sounded on the threshold and, with a heavy heart, Jennings turned to confess his crime to Mr. Wilkins. For this was not a matter that could be lightly overlooked, or passed off with a word of apology ... This was something frightful!

Mr. Wilkins thought so, too, when he heard the news. "You've locked him in!" he echoed, unable to believe that anyone in their senses could do anything so stupid. "But you—you silly little boy, what in the name of reason did you do it for?"

"Terribly sorry, sir. We were playing a game, you see, and I thought ..."

"Never mind what you thought," barked Mr. Wilkins. He knew only too well that the General was not the sort of man to bear such an indignity without protest. It really was too bad, considering what the headmaster had said about the boys being on their best behaviour! And then, as a further possibility occurred to him, Mr. Wilkins burst out: "I say, he's not still there, is he?"

"Yes, sir."

## ENGLISH COINS

### 10. James I and Charles I

WITH the union of the crowns of Scotland and England came a new gold coin, bearing the crowned profile of James I, half-length, and his title, king of Great Britain.

For the silver crown, James reverted to the equestrian



portrait as on the original crown of Edward VI, but the horse is stiff and heavily caparisoned compared with the lively earlier example. On the shilling (pictured here) and smaller denominations there is now a clear mark of value.

The coinage of Charles I up to the outbreak of the Civil War in 1642 followed, in general, the types and denominations of his father. The portrait of the king on his coins shows the familiar flowing hair, neat beard, and lace collar. Particularly fine are the coins produced by the French moneyer, Nicholas Briot, using the new mill and screw-press method.

"Oh, my goodness! Well, don't stand about looking foolish, boy; go and let him out at once."

Jennings gulped. "I can't, sir. Darbshire's gone off with the key in his pocket."

Mr. Wilkins almost danced with frustration. "I ... I ... Cor-wump!" he spluttered. And, sending Venables hot-foot in pursuit of the key-dangling Darbshire, he hurried upstairs to the library with Jennings trailing unhappily at his heels.

Any hope that the General might be bearing his imprisonment with calmness and fortitude was dispelled by the shouts and bangs which greeted Mr. Wilkins while he was still some distance from the room. For the library door, though stout, was of little use as a sound barrier.

## "Outrage!"

"Hey! Open this door! ... What is the meaning of this outrage!" came in angry tones from within.

"It's all right, General Merridew," Mr. Wilkins assured him through the panels. "If you wouldn't mind waiting just a few moments ..."

"I'm not waiting any moments. Open this door at once—d'you hear!"

"Yes, yes, of course. The only trouble is ... How on earth could he explain? Mr. Wilkins wrung his hands in a gesture of despair and turned sharply on the luckless Jennings. "You really are incredibly stupid. You must be off your head," he said loudly.

"What's that? Must be off my head? How dare you, sir!" came in furious accents from the other side of the door.

"No, no; not you, General. I was talking to a boy."

"Fine time to start chatting to boys, with me locked in here like a jail-bird," stormed the distinguished guest. "This sort of thing didn't happen in 1895, I'll have you know."

Regardless of the crease in his trousers, Mr. Wilkins knelt down and applied his lips to the keyhole, determined to explain the position at all costs.

"Please accept my deepest apologies, General Merridew," he began. "Something most unfortunate has occurred, but if you will be patient for just a few minutes longer ..."

## Astonishing Sight

Mr. Carter was humming gaily to himself as he made his way back to the library from the headmaster's study. Then he reached the top of the stairs, and the humming gave place to a gasp of surprise at the sight of an assistant master kneeling in the corridor and making an impassioned speech through the jamb of the library door.

"Well, really, Wilkins!" he exclaimed. "What on earth are you doing? Do you realise that General Merridew is in there, waiting to see the Head?"

"You don't have to tell me that, Carter," retorted Mr. Wilkins, breaking off his speech and turning on his colleague with some heat. "This wretched boy has locked him in; and so far as I can make

Continued on page 10

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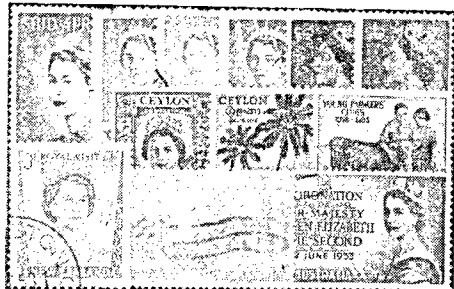
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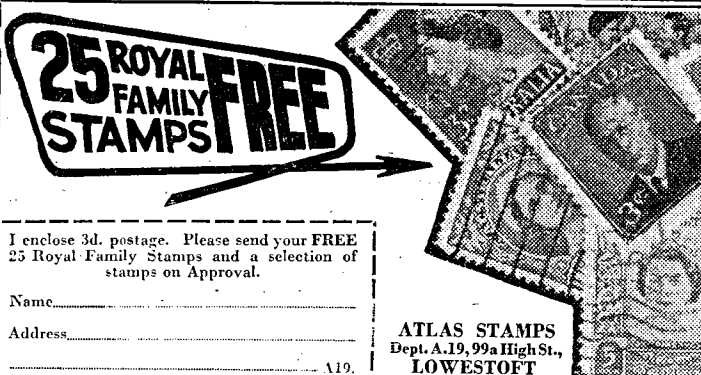
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## SPORTS SHORTS

**DICKIE BROWNING**, the American national acrobatics champion, is able to clear the high jump bar at eight feet. But he is not a recognised high jumper, nor can his fantastic leap be claimed as a world record, for Browning jumps off both feet, and the international rules state that it must be a one-footed take-off. Next June he will be appearing in the world gymnastic championships in Rome.

**ALREADY** a number of table tennis players who will compete in the world championships at Wembley in April are on their way to this country. The first official New Zealand team is due to arrive next week, while the Australian contingent, who will appear in the Swaythling Cup tournament for the first time, will be here during the weekend.

**IN** a recent golf match at Merrow Downs, in Surrey, two of the players were forced to play the last hole of their round by match-light. They struck matches for one another so that they could hole out on the last green.

**TOM DOLLERY**, who is one of the most popular cricketers in the country and the first professional ever to be elected as a County cricket skipper, has been re-appointed captain of Warwickshire for the new season. This will be his sixth season as leader of his County.

**CHARLES MILLER**, 18-year-old hurdler, is determined to be fit for the coming athletics season. Every Saturday morning during the winter he leaves his Kent home at 6.30 a.m. to journey to Mottspur Park, Surrey, where he trains and receives coaching from Geoff Dyson.



A fast jump turn is demonstrated by an expert skier at Old Forge in New York State.

**ENGLAND v. Ireland** at Twickenham, and **Scotland v. the All Blacks** at Murrayfield should provide plenty of thrills for Rugby enthusiasts next Saturday. In the last two games between England and Ireland at Twickenham England won by a solitary try to nil. The Scots are still seeking their first victory against visiting New Zealanders.

## ACCORDING TO JENNINGS

Continued from page 9

out, that half-witted Darbshire has gone off with the key after giving a poetry recital through the key-hole.

"It wasn't much of a poem, really, sir," said Jennings, who liked to get things right. "All he said was, 'Ha-ha-ha...'"

"Be quiet, boy. I don't care if he recited the *Complete Works of Shakespeare*—the damage is done now."

The situation was bad enough in all conscience, but it became worse a moment later when Venables arrived with the news that Darbshire—and the key—were nowhere to be found.

Mr. Carter sized up the situation and made a quick decision. The library was on the first floor, and the General could hardly be expected to undertake an airborne leap on to the quad below. A ladder was the obvious solution; by this means the two masters, armed with a screw-driver, could climb in through the window, remove the lock from the inside of the door and set the prisoner free.

"Good idea, Carter," said Mr. Wilkins, as his colleague outlined the plan. "There's a ladder behind the gymnasium. Come and give me a hand, and we'll have him out in no time."

With a brief word of explanation to the imprisoned guest, they hurried away to put their plan into operation, leaving Jennings alone outside the door.

He was not alone for long. For no sooner had the masters disappeared on their errand of mercy than a light footstep was heard at the far end of the corridor, and

C. E. J. Darbshire, in person, came skipping into view, still chanting snatches of his immortal verse in a tuneless treble.

"Ha-ha-ha... Hee-hee-hee! We've locked them in and pinched the key," he warbled.

It was clear that Darbshire was not abreast of modern developments, and Jennings lost no time in bringing him up to date.

"You great, addleheaded clodpoll, Darbshire! Where have you been?" he demanded. "Venables has been looking for you all over the place."

"Don't be crazy, Jen. How could he, when he's locked up in there?" Darbshire retorted, pointing a finger at the library door. "Why, as a matter of fact..."

He broke off as the General's indignant tones rang out in a renewed burst of protest. "Hey! You outside there, whoever you are! How much longer do you expect me to go on waiting for someone to unlock this door?"

A puzzled expression spread slowly over Darbshire's features. "That doesn't sound like Venables," he said.

"You never spoke a truer word," Jennings replied sadly. "Hand over that key. We've got enough trouble coming our way to last us for the rest of the term."

A moment later the key turned in the lock, the door swung open and the two boys took an instinctive step backwards, as General Merridew stepped wrathfully over the threshold, demanding explanations and uttering threats all in the same breath.

To be continued

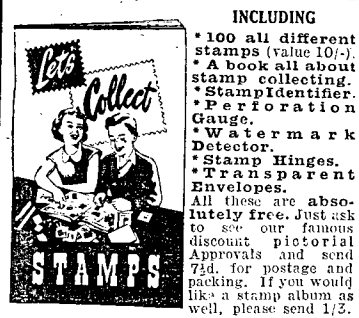


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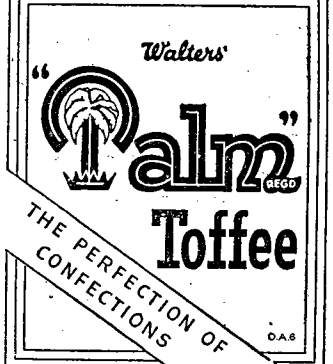
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The Children's Newspaper, February 13, 1954



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The CN Astronomer writes about the wonders of . . .

## THE HYADES CLUSTER

THAT remarkable cluster of travelling suns, the Hyades, may now be seen to advantage of an evening, high in the southern sky. It is not far from overhead between 7 and 8 o'clock, and may be readily recognised for it forms a V, the bright-reddish star, Aldebaran, being placed as shown in the accompanying star-map.

Aldebaran is not a member of the Hyades cluster but a giant sun



very much nearer to us, and travelling in a different direction.

Most of the Hyades appear below fourth magnitude and quite a number need optical help to reveal them. Between 40 and 50 suns are obvious through binoculars, while low telescopic powers will increase the number to over 80.

Most of them are suns very similar to our Sun in type, size, and age, but there are what are known as "giant suns" among them, such as Gamma, Epsilon, and Delta. The cluster contains none of the youthful types such as those of the Pleiades, which shows that the two clusters have nothing in common.

The most surprising thing about the Hyades is the fact that all these suns are speeding in the same direction, that is, toward the east as observed from the Earth. As they are all travelling at much the same rate they keep together, except that their paths in space are gradually widening out so that ages hence they will appear much farther apart.

The direction in which these suns is travelling indicates that long ago they all had a common origin. This was probably in a nebulous mass of radiant matter in the form of gas similar to those colossal nebulae to be seen in parts of the Galaxy.

### FUTURE SUNS

Photographs of these nebulae show them to be in various states of evolution from chaos to the beginnings of orderly motion, and of streams of radiant matter which will eventually evolve into suns. But the suns of the Hyades cluster do not appear to travel in an orbit round a common centre but straight on from some centre where they originated.

Though the individual stars of this Cluster appear so near together, they are actually vast distances apart. The whole Cluster averages about 126 light-years' journey from us, yet so extensive is it that it would take light, travelling at 186,271 miles a second, about 35 years to cross the Hyades Cluster. G. F. M.

## The CN National Handwriting Test

Prizes Value £500 to be Awarded

THE great Handwriting Test sponsored by CHILDREN'S NEWS-PAPER continues to arouse wide interest; applications for Entry Forms are still flowing in by every post.

The Test is for all full-time pupils of schools and colleges in Great Britain, all Ireland, and the Channel Islands who are under 17. Every pupil's attempt must be on the special Entry Form issued only through schools—and only on request. There is still time for form applications to be made, and a coupon for the purpose is provided below.

Each entrant has simply to copy out the Test Passage, given on the Form, in the writing style taught in his or her school, and attach to it one of the Tokens printed each week on the back page of C.N. Completed entries must be sent in by March 31 in accordance with the rules. There are Three Age Groups, each with cash prizes as follows:

1st PRIZES	2nd PRIZES	3rd PRIZES
To the School ... £25	To the School ... £10	To the School ... £5
Prize-winning pupil £5	Prize-winning pupil £3	Prize-winning pupil £2

In addition, there will be 50 copies of the Oxford Miniature Coronation Bible, 50 copies of "The Ascent of Everest," and 1200 Fountain-Pens each autographed with winner's name—making 1318 prizes in all.

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If you would like to win for your school and yourself, please show this announcement to your Teacher, and (unless the school has already applied) ask him or her kindly to complete the coupon below and send it in.

**NOTE TO TEACHERS:** The Entry Form contains the Test Passage, space for the pupil's effort, and the full rules. It is issued only to schools on request. Teachers are asked kindly to assess the number of copies required as closely as possible, and to send for them on this coupon. The supply will then be sent free and post free. Last date for form application is March 1.

To CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER, Competition Dept., CN  
3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.).

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## THE BRAIN TUB

### SAMMY SIMPLE

"I WANT a dog licence, please," said Sammy.  
 "Certainly," replied the clerk;  
 "what name?"  
 "Rover."

### Two threes

Each group starts with clues for two three-letter words. These joined together make a six-letter word to answer the third clue.

CONFLICT + lair = keeper.

Conjunction + heavy weight = fastener.

Organ of hearing + old "your" = like soil.

Kind of aircraft engine + short Samuel = goods thrown overboard.

Automobile + favourite = floor covering.

Answer next week

### SPOT THE . . .

PIPISTRELLE as it flutters in odd, erratic flight in some woodland glade. Pipistrelles, or common bats, are about three inches long,



with a wingspan from eight to nine inches. Their small, triangular ears

have blunt tips, and their head is broad and flat.

During winter they hibernate in caves, hollow trees, barns, old buildings, and similar places. A mild day may rouse them, and send them looking for food.

## BEDTIME CORNER

### THE SAUCY SALLY GETS STUCK

"WELL, this isn't much good," said Billy as he watched his sailing yacht becalmed in the middle of the pond.

There had been a fair wind as Billy had made his way to the Common, and although it was rather cold he decided that he would sail the Saucy Sally.

But no sooner had the yacht reached the centre of the pond than the wind seemed to drop completely.

Billy waited and waited, but the little ship moved not an inch. "Oh, well, I'll have to come up early in the morning," he muttered.

The next morning he got up early and hurried to the Common. It was still very cold but there was a good wind blowing.

"The Saucy Sally will certainly have been blown to the edge of the pond in this breeze," said Billy as he hurried along.

But when he got there the boat was still in the middle of the pond—and looked as though it would stay there for some time.

It had been so cold that the pond had frozen over during the night!

### IN CODE

THE code numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 represent certain letters in the alphabet. Can you guess what the letters are and then work out the names of the towns?

1.b.2.r.d.2.2.n.  
 L.2.l.m.3.n.g.t.4.n.  
 H.l.r.r.4.g.l.t.2.  
 L.2.3.c.2.s.t.2.r..  
 B.3.r.m.3.n.g.h.l.m.

Answer next week

### Sheer nonsense

"I HAD a cellar," Badger said,  
 "Filled with ice-cream and gingerbread,  
 White mice and fog and wool and ink,  
 And other lovely things to drink."

### Uniformity

AT the beginning of the 18th century there was no set uniform in the British Navy, and officers dressed themselves and their crews to suit their own fancy.

In 1747 the suggestion was made that the national colours of red and blue should be adopted as a standard. But about this time George II chanced to see the Duchess of Bedford in a riding habit of blue faced with white.

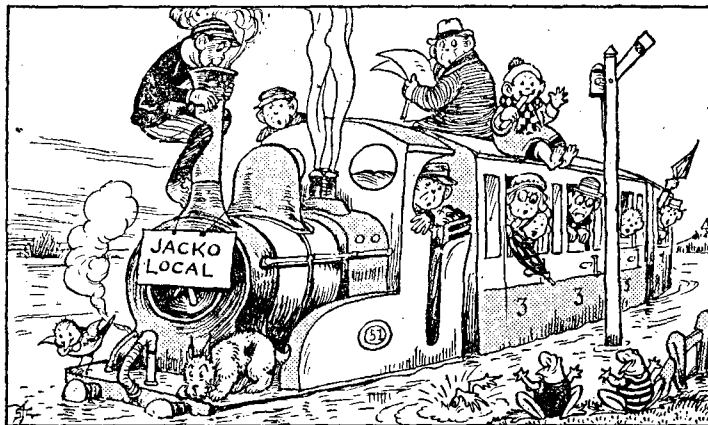
The king was so charmed with her appearance, he ordered that these should be the colours for the Navy.

### Pleasant thoughts

"DAD, I dreamt last night that you gave me half-a-crown this morning."

"Well, as you've been a good lad lately, you can keep it."

## STRANDED ABOARD THE JACKO LOCAL



February fill-dike had done its job again; the Jacko Local was stuck fast in the floods. There was no seat for Father, so he clambered onto the roof—followed by Baby. Jacko went exploring, even peering down the funnel. "You won't find a way out of our troubles down there," grunted Father peering over the edge of his newspaper. From the sound of the croaks from the bank the frogs were thoroughly enjoying the spectacle.

### Hazy Daisy

THERE was a young lady called Daisy,  
 Who said: "Though I'm not at all lazy,  
 And though I'm no fool,  
 Yet I never liked school,  
 So my general knowledge is hazy."

### FLOWER LEGENDS

THE aconite is known in America as Monkshood; in Denmark as Troll's hat; Norwegians call it Odin's helmet; and in Germany it is called Iron hat and Storm hat.

A legend about the aconite relates that when Theseus returned to the court of his father, Aegus, king of Athens, he was greeted by Media, the beautiful enchantress. She handed him a golden goblet, bidding him drink. Suspecting treachery, Theseus requested her to drink first. She turned pale and dashing the goblet to the ground, fled.

The marble floor cracked where the liquid spilled. Tradition records that the poison contained aconite.

\* Ancient warriors dipped their weapons in the juice of this plant, and their enemies would die at the slightest scratch.

### JUMBLE QUIZ

To find the answer to each clue rearrange the letters in the anagrams at the end of the clues. Each solution begins with the letter N.

1. An independent kingdom lying to the north of India, with Mount Everest on its borders. (PLANE)

2. Gas that makes up four-fifths of the earth's atmosphere; essential to plant life, which extracts it from soil and fertilisers. (RING TONE)

3. City in Northumberland but having itself the status of a county; lies in an excellent coal-mining area and is one of the largest shipbuilding centres (CLEANS WET)

4. Drug present in tobacco; much used in gardens for killing insects such as green-fly. (INTO NICE)

Answer next week

## FIND THE IMPS

EACH of the answers to the following clues begins with IMP. Can you find them?

Should not be overlooked  
 Cannot be done  
 Driving force  
 Get in the way  
 Cheeky  
 Getting better

Answer next week

### Cyclists and the fly

JOHN and Ted set out from two places 20 miles apart to meet each other. Each cycles at ten m.p.h.

At the moment that Ted sets out a fly on his nose starts off at 50 m.p.h. to meet John. When it meets him it immediately turns back to meet Ted and continues flying backwards and forwards until the two boys meet. How far did the fly fly?

Fifty miles. The boys meet at the end of an hour.

### In a flap

WHEN in flight, the tiny humming bird of South America flaps its wings so fast that the human eye cannot see them move. It can also fly backwards and remain stationary in the air.

### LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

In school. Lessons

Jumble Quiz. Montreal, Magdalen, Melbourne, Mercury

Simple arithmetic.

One, add an N, which makes none; and six, take off the s, which makes IX (nine)

A	T	O	L	L	P	O	T
P	E	R	A	S	I	D	E
E	N	D	S	T	E	E	R
S	E	N	S	E	S	E	S
H	E	R	O	M	A	I	R
A	T	A	S	T	E		
T	H	R	E	W	T	E	N
E	R	O	D	E	A	L	E
S	H	E	D	U	R	I	S

Sharps  
the word!

Sharps

the word  
for Toffee



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### Rags and me

IN the passage by the stairs  
 Lurk two enormous, savage bears.

And just as Dad goes strolling by  
 They spring on him with awful cry.

Down goes poor Dad upon the floor,  
 And there they tumble, roll, and roar.

Dad doesn't mind; the bears, you see,  
 Are only Rags, our dog, and me.

### Puzzles in church

To find the names of these things found in a church, add the solutions to the picture puzzles to their correct groups of letters.



PULPIT, WINDOW, CHANCEL, ALTAR, SPIRE, AISLE